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**To:** [Safay, Robert E. \(ATSDR/DRO\)](#); [Robert Safay/R4/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Patrick Young/R6/USEPA/US@EPA](#)  
**Cc:** [Rich, Bill \(CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH\)](#); [Rilling, Cyndi \(CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 4-29-10 Low Alert SitRep #1 Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill  
**Date:** 04/29/2010 12:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [landfall4\\_28.pdf](#)  
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FYI... also.. we received the OK to share these types of documents (sitreps, issue briefs) with your state and local counterparts.

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**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2010 1:38 PM  
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**Cc:** Rilling, Cyndi (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH); Rich, Bill (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH); Nickle, Richard (ATSDR/DTEM/PRMSB)  
**Subject:** 4-29-10 Low Alert SitRep #1 Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill

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04-29-2010 Low Alert SitRep #1 – Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill

CDC RESPONSE STATUS: **OPEN**

DATE OF EVENT: 04/20/2010

TIME: As of 12:00pm on 4/29/10

LOCATION OF EVENT: Approx. 130 miles southeast of New Orleans, LA.

ORGANIZATION REQUESTING ASSISTANCE: EPA and the Unified Area Command Joint Information Center

LEAD AGENCY: US Coast Guard

Lead CDC CIO: NCEH/ATSDR

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:

1. An incident specific "Burn Plan" was developed and was reviewed by multiple agencies, including CDC/ATSDR on 4/28. NCEH/ATSDR subject matter experts reviewed the plan.
2. ATSDR/DTEM has participated in daily NRT briefings etc, including one in the White House Situation Room on 4/24 at the request of HHS/ASPR.
3. At the request of EPA and in coordination with NIOSH and NCEH, ATSDR has recommended environmental analytes and ambient air action levels to evaluate the results of air monitoring data.
4. At the request of the USCG and in coordination with NIOSH, ATSDR has reviewed and provided comments on the In-Situ Burn Plan developed in accordance with the protocol originally approved by CDC/CEHIC.
5. At the request of EPA and in coordination with OC and NIOSH, ATSDR has provided technical input on health issues related to the odor complaints in support of the Unified Area Command's Joint Information Center.
6. NCEH/ATSDR has offered to work with the Joint Information Center at the

Unified Area Command in drafting responses to common community questions that may result from this event.

#### ACTIONS TAKEN:

1. NCEH/ATSDR OTPER provided initial notification of the incident on 4/23 to NCEH/ATSDR Senior Staff, NCIPC, OPHPR, HHS, OC, EHHE, EEHS, NIOSH, DTEM, and DRO.
2. OTPER, the NCEH Office of Communications and the ATSDR Division of Toxicology provided an update briefing for NCEH/ATSDR Senior Staff about the event on 4/28.
3. ATSDR/DTEM has participated in daily NRT briefings etc, including one in the White House Situation Room on 4/24 at the request of HHS/ASPR.
4. ATSDR/DRO has made contact with each state health department in the affected area and notified regional poison control centers of the event. DRO is coordinating interactions with EPA Regional Offices.
5. At the request of EPA and in coordination with NIOSH and NCEH, ATSDR has recommended environmental analytes and ambient air action levels to evaluate the results of air monitoring data.
6. At the request of OTPER, ATSDR continues to review information from the Unified Command posted on the NOAA Incident Hotline and participate in the daily briefings of the NRT.
7. NCEH/ATSDR/Office of Communication is working to review current web content posted on the CDC website and will update accordingly.
8. NCEH/ATSDR is in process of creating a Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill Task Force in order to address this issue. The Task Force will be coordinated by OTPER and be comprised of representatives from key stakeholders across NCEH/ATSDR who would likely be asked to address any human health issues or requests for technical assistance that may emerge.

#### PERSONS CONTACTED:

NAME AND AGENCY: Rich Nickle, ATSDR

NAME AND AGENCY: Jim Holler, ATSDR

NOTIFICATION SOURCE: NCEH/ATSDR, Office of Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response (OTPER)

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NARRATIVE: On April 20, 2010, an explosion took place on the Mobil Offshore

Drilling Unit (MODU) *Deepwater Horizon* operating in the offshore lease area called the Mississippi Canyon approximately 130 miles southeast of New Orleans, LA. The well head of the production well the MODU was finishing in 5000 feet of water began leaking oil at the rate of 1000 barrels (~42, 000 gallons) per day. Efforts to control the release from the surface have failed and a major oil spill threatens the Gulf Coast of the US from the Mississippi River to Panama City, FL.

The Lead Federal Agency (LFA) is the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the Lead Federal Official (LFO) is ADM Mary Landry, Commander, 8<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District, and New Orleans, LA. The Responsible Party (RP) is British Petroleum (BP). The event name that is being used by the LFA is Mississippi Canyon Oil Spill.

Potential areas of landfall include 4 Coast Guard Sectors (local units), 2 Coast Guard Districts, 2 Federal Regions (Regions 4 and 6), and 4 states (Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida).

Systems intended to prevent this kind of event failed to successfully operate apparently due to an equipment malfunction at the well head. Options to control the leak have been initiated but will take weeks to months to complete.

Assuming crude oil slicks impact sensitive habitats or commercial fishing beds, advisories may be necessary to advise the public. This may necessitate coordination with FDA.

EPA air data will likely be arriving beginning over the weekend for review and comment by CDC/ATSDR. EPA has already requested 24 hour turnaround in our evaluation of the data similar to the support provided during Hurricane Katrina.

Attached is a Shoreline Impact Outlook Graphic provided by NOAA .

<<landfall4\_28.pdf>>

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